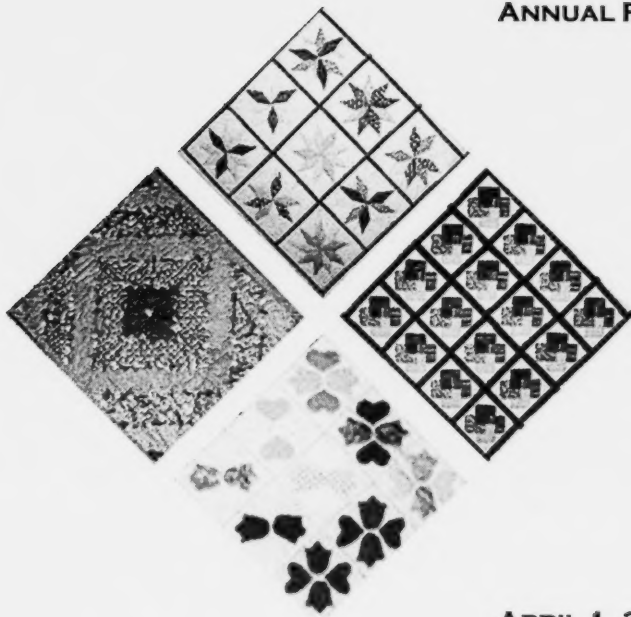


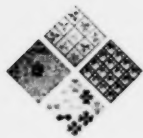
**ANNUAL REPORT 2007/2008**



**ACTIVITIES  
OF THE  
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND  
ADVISORY COUNCIL  
ON THE  
STATUS OF WOMEN**

**APRIL 1, 2007, TO MARCH 31, 2008**





#### **ABOUT THE COVER IMAGE**

Quilt Quad: Samples of four quilts by Pauline Thomson  
*Pauline is a current member of the PEI Advisory Council  
on the Status of Women, appointed in 2007.*





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Advisory Council on the  
Status of Women

PO Box 2000  
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September 2008

Hon. Valerie Docherty, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women  
PO Box 2000  
Charlottetown PEI C1A 7N8

Dear Minister Docherty:

I am pleased to present you with the 2007/2008 Annual Report of the Prince Edward Island Advisory Council on the Status of Women.

The Annual Report contains our audited financial statements and a summary of Council's activities, publications, and collaborations with government.

Sincerely,

*Isabelle Christian*

Isabelle Christian, Chairperson



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## CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

In my first message as chairperson of the Prince Edward Island Advisory Council on the Status of Women (PEIACSW), I have decided to survey how the Council has been fulfilling its mandate during the 2007–2008 year, by reflecting on several aspects of its role.

**The PEIACSW serves as a community arm to the provincial government and acts as a liaison and advisor regarding issues identified by communities and individual women on PEI.** In 2007–2008, the Council struggled for a certain period to be that community arm, due to dwindling membership as we waited for new appointments. The Council was very excited and encouraged with the appointments of five new members in January 2008. The Council celebrated its retiring members and outgoing

Chairperson, as they take on individual challenges such as teaching in Hong Kong or they continue their advocacy on other fronts, or further their work as fair and compassionate service providers in their home locales.

Although the Council does not provide a storefront service for individuals in distress, it is sometimes a place of last resort for women. In such situations staff serve by listening, and drawing upon their networks and their knowledge of systems to effect some resolution to a crisis precipitated by violence or threat, poverty, legal issues, or other factors. An important aspect of liaison and advocacy is to validate the experience of women and groups of women that reach out for help. Magda Lewis, a Canadian feminist educator, has written that as individuals we think we are alone in our perspective

until we share our stories. Then we uncover patterns of thinking and feeling among people of similar experience. Lewis calls this a transformative moment, and staff certainly know about women's lives that have been changed one by one, by that sharing.

Council's intervention is not carried out in isolation from the analysis that staff and members are capable of doing, isolated situations do not remain isolated; they become part of the mosaic of inequalities that must also be addressed in the larger political and social sphere. Often, even one person's experience can illuminate strengths and weaknesses in legislation, policies, and programs. It is the Council's role to bring these to the attention of government. Kirstin Lund, as outgoing Chairperson, did an admirable job of providing Premier Robert Ghiz and Minister

Docherty a broad overview of inequities that are still to be addressed after successive Councils have raised them.

**The PEIACSW initiates and participates in projects and events of benefit to Island women.** In 2007–2008 the Council was a partner in organizing the second International Women's Day **Leaders Among Us** event to honour women who have demonstrated leadership in specific aspects of Island life. It is with sadness that we remember one of last year's honorees, Donalda MacDonald, who succumbed to cancer in late 2007.

Another event that is personally moving for me is attending an annual December 6<sup>th</sup> memorial service to mark the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. This event always particularly recognizes the worst effects of violence by spouses or

intimate partners. In 2007, Lieutenant Governor Barbara Hagerman lit the first candle of remembrance. Her participation speaks volumes to equality workers, and to the community of the recognition that intimate partner violence represents the very worst that is precipitated by the inequality of women, when victims pay with their lives in Canada today.

**The Prince Edward Island Advisory Council on the Status of Women conducts research on identified concerns and offers recommendations to government departments, committees, royal commissions, special task forces, and community consultations to promote equality.** Since 2001, the Council has released Policy Guides on priority issues for women and children, including women's health,

employment standards, family law/legal aid, and early childhood care and education. Each policy guide package includes analysis and recommendations for government and supplementary background data. In 2007 the Council began devising a process to measure government's responsiveness to the recommendations it has been making over time. The Equality Report Card has been a major initiative of the Council this year. It is an interactive process that has engaged Ministers and departments, with the endorsement of Minister Docherty. In the short term, Council is encouraged by the levels of cooperation and involvement it has gained, and the awareness it has created through the Report Card project. In the long term — in one, two, or five years — we will be able to reliably say where progress has been made, and where we would ask or

expect our government to deepen its commitment on behalf of the most disenfranchised of women.

In 2007–2008 government launched an abundance of commissions and consultations in areas of social and economic policy. The Council's submissions have sometimes added to the consensus of other constituents, but sometimes present a unique women's equality perspective that has been welcomed by commissioners. I am proud to say that Council members have taken their role seriously in providing input to the submissions. I am grateful to Jane Ledwell, the Council's policy analyst for her fine research and writing skills on our behalf.

I look forward to playing a continued role as Chairperson of the Advisory

Council on the Status of Women in 2008–2009, in a pivotal year that will be anchored by the release of the Equality Report Card in June. Government's investment in community consultation and response, and in equity-based policy research and advocacy, through the Advisory Council on the Status of Women is a valuable public investment, and its return will be greater diversity and equity in Prince Edward Island society. We are committed to collaborating with both government and community to advance women's equality goals.

*Isabelle Christian*  
*Chairperson*

## **ABOUT THE COUNCIL**

### **MANDATE AND MEETINGS**

The Prince Edward Island Advisory Council on the Status of Women (PEIACSW) is a government-appointed provincial advisory agency made up of nine women who share a vision: respect and equality of opportunity for all people regardless of gender, race, religion, wealth, or ability.

The Advisory Council works for equality and supports women's full and active participation in social, legal, cultural, economic, and political spheres of life. Over the years, the Council has

developed a policy of commitment toward feminist process in conducting its affairs and in problem resolution.

The Advisory Council achieves its mandate through its unique relationship with both the government and the community. The Advisory Council began in 1975 as an Order-in-Council. In 1988, it received full legislative standing with the *PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women Act*. This act continues to govern the Council's structure and mandate.

#### **Roles of the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women**

- serves as a community arm to the provincial government
- acts as a liaison and advisor regarding issues identified by communities and individual women on PEI

- conducts research on these identified concerns and offers recommendations to government departments, committees, royal commissions, special task forces, and community consultations to promote equality
- informs the Minister Responsible on the Status of Women about events and issues concerning women's equality
- works collaboratively with community organizations and government systems towards equality for all women
- initiates and participates in projects and events of benefit to Island women
- responds to enquiries from individuals, organizations, and government
- listens to women and validates their experience in understanding issues that affect them and their families
- provides leadership that educates and stimulates public awareness about the status of women
- meets with other provincial/territorial Advisory Councils

**Advisory Council meetings, 2007–08**

- **94<sup>th</sup> meeting:** June 5, 2007, Summerside, PEI
- **95<sup>th</sup> meeting:** September 24, 2007, Montague PEI
- **96<sup>th</sup> meeting:** November 26, 2007, Charlottetown, PEI
- **97<sup>th</sup> meeting:** January 10, 2008, Charlottetown, PEI
- **98<sup>th</sup> meeting:** February 19, 2008, Charlottetown, PEI

## **MEMBERS**

Members of the Prince Edward Island Advisory Council on the Status of Women members are appointed by Executive Council, selected from among Island women who have demonstrated a commitment to women's equality. Members usually represent regional, cultural, and ethnic diversity, including groups such as women of colour and young, lesbian, Aboriginal, Francophone, disabled, low-income, and senior women. Women may now self-nominate for inclusion on Council through the "Participate in PEI" program instituted by government in 2007.

Council members are appointed for two- and three-year terms.

In 2007–08, Council welcomed Executive Council's appointment of Isabelle Christian as new Chairperson and of five new members to fill vacancies: Jane Boyd, appointed as Vice-Chairperson, and Susan Connolly, Gwyn Davies, Andie Bulman, and Pauline Thomson, appointed as Members. Council selected Sadie MacKenzie as Treasurer.

Council offered sincere thanks to departing Council members Kirstin Lund and Elaine Rabinowitz, who completed terms as Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, respectively.

**Isabelle Christian, Stratford — New Chairperson**

**Council term: June 13, 2006, to June 13, 2009**

Isabelle Christian of Stratford brings to Council her extensive experience as an educator in the school system and in adult learning and development, as well as a deep concern for the quality of women's lives. In 1996, Isabelle led the establishment of a Management Development Program for Women at the University of Prince Edward Island. Her work at UPEI has contributed to the establishment of the Atlantic Summer Institute on Healthy and Safe Communities, a learning event aimed at making connections between determinants of health and root causes of crime. She currently works with adult learners on Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition. Isabelle and her husband Gerard reside in Stratford. They have three grown children.

**Kirstin Lund, Stratford — Outgoing Chairperson**

**Council term: January 28, 2003, to January 28, 2008**

Kirstin Lund has been a faculty member of UPEI's Centre for Conflict Resolution Studies since 1998, teaching courses in mediation, communication skills, and restorative justice. Since leaving the practice of law in 1996, she has coordinated many projects concerning conflict resolution and woman abuse prevention. More recently, she has coordinated research and project work in support of women's access to maternity and parental benefits and increasing the number of women in government. She has served on boards for Women's



Network PEI, Transition House Association, and the PEI Crime Prevention Association.

**Jane Boyd, Summerside — New Vice-Chairperson**

**Council term: January 29, 2008, to December 31, 2010**

Jane Boyd maintains a busy consulting practice that develops solutions related to employee management, work-life balance, child care, and human resource issues. For more than 20 years, Jane has been actively involved in the child care field. She has 12 years direct experience supporting the development of Montessori programs and their related child care services for families. Currently, Jane is managing the development of two new Montessori private school programs in Summerside and Charlottetown.

**Elaine Rabinowitz, Breadalbane — Outgoing Vice-Chairperson**

**Council term: January 28, 2003, to January 28, 2008**

Elaine Rabinowitz is a Registered Nurse and works with Community Mental Health in Summerside. She is a founding and current member of the East Prince Committee on Family Violence, a member of the Provincial Child Sexual Abuse Advisory Committee, and a previous board member of Transition House Association. Elaine also contributed to the board of the PEI Multicultural Association and was active in Home and School and Guiding.

**Sadie MacKenzie, Montague — Treasurer**

**Council term: July 13, 2005, to December 31, 2010**

Sadie MacKenzie of Montague worked in a nursing home for 22 years as a nursing attendant and activities coordinator. She was a volunteer with Meals on Wheels and spent a term on Montague Town Council. She has three grown children. She currently works with the PEI Liquor Control Commission. She brings to Council her insight into the special challenges of women in abusive relationships in small Island communities.

**Gwyn Davies, Gairloch — Member**

**Council term: January 29, 2008, to December 31, 2010**

Gwyn Davies of Gairloch is dedicated to working for women and children experiencing violence and fear of violence. Gwyn is the Outreach Worker for Eastern PEI Family Violence Prevention Services. Gwyn is a mother of three grown daughters. She lives with her husband in Gairloch where they have a home-based business raising turkeys.

**Susan Connolly, Charlottetown — Member**

**Council term: January 29, 2008, to December 31, 2010**

Susan Connolly of Charlottetown is a member of the Canadian Bar Association and the Law Society of Prince Edward Island. She practices Corporate and

Commercial Law at Stewart McKelvey in Charlottetown. She is on the Boards of Women's Network PEI and Pat and the Elephant.

**Roseanne Sark, Summerside — Member**

**Council term: July 13, 2005, to December 31, 2010**

Roseanne Sark, a member of the Lennox Island First Nation, is a Health Policy Analyst with the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI. Roseanne is a mother of two. She has a BA from Carleton University and is also certified with Reality Therapy. She has worked in the field of family violence prevention, research, recreation, cultural promotion and facilitation for various organizations including the Native Women's Association of Canada, Lennox Island First Nation, Department of Veterans' Affairs, Human Resources Development Canada and the Mi'kmaq Family Resource Centre. Over the years Roseanne has been part of numerous volunteer committees and executive boards.

**Sister Norma Gallant, Wellington — Member**

**Council term: July 13, 2005, to December 31, 2010**

Norma Gallant is a Francophone woman from the Evangeline area who has been involved in issues related to equality locally, regionally, provincially, and nationally for 30 years. She has been involved with issues such as teen dating; elder abuse; equality for women and men in church ministries in the French sector; abuse and harassment in sports; assistance for women to prepare

Victim Impact Statements; self-esteem. She does training in the Language of the Gifts of Character. She serves on the board of Transition House Association. Norma works at the Evangeline Community Consultative Group, especially on crime prevention work.

**Pauline Thomson, Canoe Cove — Member**

**Council term: January 29, 2008, to December 31, 2010**

Pauline Thomson of Canoe Cove has worked as a child care specialist at the Anderson House Emergency Shelter and as a Kindergarten Program Supervisor at the Y.M.C.A. in Charlottetown. She was the International Volunteer of the Year, (PEI) recipient (2001), and currently volunteers at the Hospice Palliative Care Unit - Prince Edward Home. She is a member of the Canoe Cove Women's Institute.

**Andie Bulman, Charlottetown — Member**

**Council term: January 29, 2008, to December 31, 2010**

Andie Bulman of Charlottetown has been actively involved in equality work at the UPEI campus including involvement at the UPEI Women's Centre, coordination of the PEIACSW Purple Ribbon Pinning Bee at UPEI, and had organized an International Women's Day Concert Fundraiser where a female cast entertained and raised funds for the PEI Rape and Sexual Assault Crisis Centre.

## **STAFF**

The Advisory Council had two full-time and one part-time permanent staff members in 2007-08. The Advisory Council hires one additional staff

member, Sandy Kowalik, on contract for project coordination, especially the Purple Ribbon Campaign, and to cover leaves.

### **Lisa Murphy, Executive Director**

Lisa joined Council staff in May 1990. She resigned as Director in May 2000 and was asked to return to directing Council in May 2004. She works full-time.

### **Jane Ledwell, Researcher/Policy Analyst**

Jane worked on contract for Council from 2000 to 2001. She returned in June 2004 to work full-time in research, policy analysis, and communications. She completed a parental leave in September 2007.

### **Becky Tramley, Office Administrator**

Becky joined Council in October 1986 and works part-time. She took a short leave in November 2007 to get married to her long-time love, Daniel Lee. Congratulations!

### **Sandy Kowalik**

Sandy works on a contract basis at the Council as project support and Purple Ribbon Campaign coordinator. She covered Jane's parental leave until September 2007.

### **Staff Development**

- Council hired a consultant to undertake a staff classification study, with a goal to improve staff salaries.
- Two Canada World Youth participants, Heather Dines from Toronto and Jinjin Xie from China, volunteered at the Advisory Council office during the fall. They contributed a great deal to general office work, and they received some introductory training in gender-based analysis and research.
- Staff meetings and planning sessions took place at least bi-monthly throughout the year. Staff training opportunities focused on community leadership (workshops completed April 2); conflict resolution (workshops April 25 and May 30—June 1); action research (PEI Literacy Alliance workshop, September 4 to 6); plain language training (PEI Literacy Alliance Plain Language Workshop January 30/February 14); and media training (Ann Thurlow, February 13).

## NATIONAL COALITION OF ADVISORY COUNCILS

The National Coalition of Provincial and Territorial Advisory Councils on the Status of Women was formed in 1995 to provide a venue for strategic action on issues of concern to Canadian women. The Coalition formed when the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women ceased that same year, leaving a gap in national advocacy. The PEI Advisory Council is joined in the Coalition

by similar women's Advisory Councils from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nunavut, Northwest Territories, Yukon, and Manitoba. The Quebec council receives all mailings and invitations. The Coalition is usually co-chaired by two provincial/territorial Councils. The PEI Advisory Council chaired the Coalition from December 2006 to November 2007.

### List of Major Activities, 2007-08

- Kirstin Lund, Lisa Murphy, and Jane Ledwell represented Council at a Coalition meeting in Ottawa, November 18 to 20. Sessions included the following:
  - sharing of innovative practices with representatives from Advisory Councils from other Provinces and Territories.
  - a meeting with representatives from FAFIA (Feminist Alliance for International Action) regarding their gender-budgeting project.
  - a presentation on getting regional issues on the national agenda, by Rosemary Thompson, Deputy Ottawa Bureau Chief with CTV.

- discussion of national issues and planning for Coalition intervention: issues including ongoing concern about the priority on women's equality, response to the HPV vaccine being administered to girls, concerns about Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, and the need for equality-supporting improvements to maternity and parental benefits.
- Lisa Murphy and Kirstin Lund attended a LEAF Ottawa Person's Day breakfast event. They shared spirited discussion at this event with PEI Senator Catherine Callbeck, Charlottetown MP Shawn Murphy, Malpeque MP Wayne Easter, and MPs Carolyn Bennett and Alexa McDonough.
- Lisa Murphy and Jane Ledwell met with Sen. Percy Downe on Parliament Hill.
- The PEI Advisory Council coordinated, drafted, and published a news release, a detailed meeting report, and minutes following the meeting.
- The PEI Council also drafted a meeting synopsis to be sent to the federal Minister Responsible for the Status of Women and to Status of Women Canada officials.
- Lisa Murphy and Jane Ledwell consulted with the Coalition and collaborated to update the Expect Equality Every Day calendar and issues overview as a national publication for the Coalition.



## **POLICY AND RESEARCH**

### **COUNCIL PLANNING**

Beginning in its 2003–04 fiscal year, the Prince Edward Island Advisory Council on the Status of Women formalized a Council Planning process. This work continued in 2007–08. The goal of Council Planning is to ensure that Council's policy work is based on Council's priorities and that Council looks

to the future on issues of concern to women. Ensuring ongoing follow-up on issues is part of Council Planning. Council sets its objectives in an interest-based, collaborative, and consultative process, with expert facilitation.

#### **Objectives Set by Council (2003 Meetings)**

- To ensure government accountability to PEI women
- To better influence government policy and services
- To bring the voices of PEI women to our policy work
- To improve collaboration and communication with government
- To raise public awareness about women's equality issues

#### **Progress on Council Planning, 2007–08**

- *June 5:* Council used Council planning time to follow up on the Equality Report Card. They discussed baselines for “grade” levels and planned how to introduce the Report Card to new ministers, deputies, and officials.
- *September 24:* Council continued discussion of the Equality Report Card and identified issues to raise with the Official Opposition at a lunch meeting.
- *November 26:* Council selected issues to raise with the Premier and Minister Responsible for the Status of Women during their morning check-in. Later, they discussed the need for an increased grant to the ACSW to support improved staff salaries and additional meetings.
- *January 10:* Council discussed issues for Kirstin to present to the Premier and Minister Responsible for the Status of Women in her final meeting with them.
- *February 19:* In a session facilitated by Liz Grimmett, Council members explored their personality types and the ways that they might use an understanding of each other’s types to make effective group decisions.
- *Ongoing Council Development and Education:* Council continued to schedule time at Council meetings for opportunities to learn more about feminism and its practice on PEI. Topics included Transition House Association and its work (Gloria Dennis and Cindy Banks, June 5); Feminism and the work of Advisory Councils (Leslie MacLeod, November 26); Getting your message out (Ann Thurlow, February 19).

## EQUALITY REPORT CARD

Since its inception, the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women has made recommendations to government for changes in policy and legislation to benefit the lives of Island women, girls, and their families. They have shared recommendations with government through the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women and other officials in Policy Guides, correspondence, briefings,

submissions, and meetings, both independently and in partnership with other equality-seeking organizations.

Following from previous years' strategic planning, in 2007–08 the Advisory Council initiated an Equality Report Card to assess government's progress towards implementing recommendations related to women's equality in PEI.

### Preparing for the "Report Card"

- Council members had identified priority categories for the Report Card by consensus at the March 16, 2007, meeting. These areas were as follows:
  - Making equality a priority across government
  - Women in decision-making
  - Family violence prevention
  - Women's economic status
  - Supports for caregiving
  - Access to justice

- Women's health
  - Acting collaboratively and supporting diversity and inclusion across government and in relationship with the Advisory Council
- Staff compiled past recommendations of Council under these headings and circulated the list to Council members. Council members ranked their top three priority issues under each heading.
- From Council's priorities, staff developed an introduction to the Equality Report Card publication, outlining examples of what priority actions of government would result in "A" grades in the coming year.
- The introduction to the Equality Report Card was mailed to all candidates in the spring 2007 provincial election and to all members of the PEIACSW mailing list. It served as a provincial election guide to the issues, setting out Council's expectations and priorities for government action following the election.
- In the autumn of 2007, Council members fleshed out what all grades – A, B, C, D, and F – would take into account and how they would be measured.
- In January 2008, Council staff coordinated efforts with the Interministerial Women's Secretariat to incorporate introductory gender-based analysis (GBA) training into orientation sessions.
- In January and February, Council staff requested that all departments of government and all political parties assign Report Card Liaisons to assist with the Report Card process.

- Half-day GBA and Equality Report Card orientation workshops for departmental representatives took place February 13 and 22.
- Each department's appointed representative and its Deputy Minister, received a questionnaire on Report Card priorities relevant to them in March.
- Council requested questionnaires to be completed for April 18, in anticipation of Council setting Report Card draft "grades" at its April 24 meeting.
- The Equality Report Card release date was set for June 17, 2008.

## **OTHER RESEARCH AND POLICY WORK**

In addition to developing the Equality Report Card and assessing the priority issues for action in that document, in 2007-08, Council also submitted briefing documents to a number of public consultation processes that the

government had initiated. Council's submissions on these issues build on past policy recommendations to government. They are developed with consultation and approval of Council members.

### **Highlights of Other Research and Policy Work, 2007-08:**

- Submission to Transition House Association Review (April 12)
- Submission and Presentation to the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Environment Public Hearings on Effects of Implementing a Province-Wide Ban on Cosmetic Pesticides (December 5)
- Submission to Standing Committee Community Affairs and Economic Development Public Hearings on Sunday Shopping (January 17)
- Submission to the Child Care Facilities Act Review and participation in public consultation session (March 4)
- Submission to the Child Protection Act Review and participation in public consultation session (March 20)
- Submission to the Island Heritage Study (March 31)

## INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

### ENQUIRIES AND REFERRALS

The Advisory Council responds to enquiries from individuals, groups, and government on a variety of questions and issues. These range from requests for statistical information to referrals, crisis calls, and requests for advocacy. People make enquiries in person, by telephone, by e-mail, and by correspondence. Requests for information in crisis or advocacy situations are often complex calls from women who have tried to get

information or service without success. The Advisory Council does not have the mandate or resources to provide services or to advocate for individual women; however, it offers support with information, referrals, and, at times, interventions with formal systems. The concerns women raise in individual enquiries often lead to policy analysis by Council to address underlying systemic discrimination.

#### About Enquiries

- Enquiries regarding provincial government policies, or programs included power and harassment issues in the provincial civil service; need for gender-based analysis in provincial policy; need for legal aid for family law; inappropriate charges or sentences or length for investigation in some assault

cases; concerns over rights in separation of common-law relationships; parental choice about school-entry dates; need for affordable housing, especially for disabled women; concerns about international adoption; worries over rights of children in care; need for midwifery services; concern over women's health and agricultural pesticides; need for good information about choosing and changing last names; lack of services for aging women, especially in cases of divorce with no children; and the gap for young women in Child Protection and other services.

- National issues identified by callers included lack of investment in family law legal aid, inability to pay for prescription drugs and treatments, low amounts of OAS and GIS for divorced senior women, lack of maternity and parental benefits for self-employed families, and release of violent offenders.
- General enquiries covered domestic violence, issues with provincial self-regulating professional associations, discriminatory firing, eligibility for student loans, and workplace bullying, discrimination, or sexual harassment.
- Referrals were frequently made to the PEI Lawyer Referral Service: the majority of women who call the Advisory Council need to consult a lawyer and do not have the resources to do so.
- Requests for the Council publication *Moving On: A Practical Guide for Women Leaving a Relationship* continued to be frequent. This publication was revised, updated, and republished in 2008.



## **MEDIA**

The Advisory Council regularly submits news releases and opinion pieces to the media. The Council also responds to media requests for comment and analysis on issues that affect the lives of

women and families. Ordinarily, the approved spokespersons on behalf of the Council are the Chairperson, the Executive Director, and the Researcher/Policy Analyst.

### **List of News Releases, 2007–08**

- Funding for Family Law Centre (April 13)
- ACSW/LEAF Call for Reinstatement of Court Challenges Program (April 19)
- Report Card on Equality (May 10)
- Not Much for Women in Leaders' Debate (May 16)
- Violence Prevention and Family Law Access (May 22)
- Liberal Election Promises on Equality (May 29)
- High Expectations for Cabinet (May 31)
- Too Few Women Appointed to Cabinet (June 12)
- Opposition Hears Council Concerns (September 27)
- Advisory Council Supports Citizen's Assembly for PEI (October 2)
- Tribute to a Leader for Women's Equality (October 10)
- Coalition of Women's Advisory Councils Meets (October 22)

- When Women Aren't Equal: Purple Ribbon Campaign Launch (November 26)
- Sunday Shopping Is Fine If Employment Standards Are Strong (January 18)

#### **List of Letters to the Editor and Opinion Pieces, 2007–08**

- Objectionable Content in Article on FASD (April 19)
- Tax Break on Babies' Needs Welcome (May 17)
- Women in Leaders' Debates (May 17)
- Women in Decision-Making (June 21)
- New, Improved Appointment Process (September 14)
- Power Is the Issue, in Harassment Case (September 27)
- Good News for Equality and Fairness (November 19)
- Women's Addictions: Treat the Cause (November 21)
- Support for a Province-wide Ban on Cosmetic Pesticides (December 5)
- National Day of Remembrance and Action (December 6)
- Freedom from Violence a Right for All (January 11)
- Why Women's Equality Matters (February 1)
- Good Policy Can Fight Poverty (March 27)

#### **Interview Requests, 2007–08**

- CBC Radio: comments on proportional representation for "Maritime Noon" (May 29); phone-in respondent on "Maritime Noon" re: federal budget (February 27); comments on custody for the "Sunday Edition" (March 5)

- CBC TV: Comments on College of Physicians and Surgeons for "Compass" and "The National" (May 15); deputy minister/MLA harassment case (September 29); public transit (October 26); International Women's Day promo (March 7)
- SRC (French Radio): comments on new Council appointments (February 15)
- Island Radio: post-election commentary and coverage (May)
- *Progressive Choices* Magazine: interviewed Executive Director Lisa Murphy for a profile (November)

#### **Website**

- ACSW staff members independently manage the content of the ACSW Website through InfoPEI, providing up-to-date information about the Council and its activities.
- The Advisory Council Website is available at <http://www.gov.pe.ca/acsw>

#### **Blog**

- The ACSW set up an interactive weblog on a trial basis in October 2007.
- Stats to the end of March 2008:
  - 69 posts
  - 2,437 views
  - 17 comments
- The blog is available at <http://peiactsw.wordpress.com>

## **VOTERS' GUIDES TO THE ISSUES**

As part of its legislated mandate to inform and educate the public on the status of women in Prince Edward Island, the Advisory Council shares analysis and key questions on issues with voters

during provincial and federal elections, referendums, and plebiscites. In 2007–08, the Advisory Council used the occasion of a provincial election to introduce the Equality Report Card.

### **Initiatives to Inform and Educate Voters: Provincial Election 2007**

- Developed, published, and distributed an introduction to the Equality Report Card, with a listing of high-priority issues important to women for voters and candidates to consider. Council also sent out a news release to let the public know about this new process.
- News releases and letters to the editor contained analysis of the lack of attention to women's issues in the televised leaders' debate, promises for women in the Liberal election platform, promises for tax breaks on babies' needs, and election-time announcements re: enhanced violence prevention and family law access.
- Following the election, Council publicly called on the new government to appoint a large complement of women to Executive Council and expressed public disappointment when only two women were appointed.

## COUNCIL ACTIVITIES UPDATES

Council maintains two mailing lists: one for traditional mailings and the other for electronic mailings. Members of the traditional mailing list numbered over 700 at the beginning of 2008. They receive Council publications, including occasional *Activities Updates*. The 250 members of the electronic mailing list

receive a weekly listing of community events and notices.

The Advisory Council also regularly tries to send notes of congratulation to individual women and groups who have achieved great things or made a difference in their communities.

### ***Activities Updates, 2007–08***

- *Activities Update, Fall/Winter 2007*
- *Activities Update, Winter 2008*

### ***Mail-outs, 2007–08***

- Provincial Election information (May)
- Purple Ribbon Campaign materials and fall *Activities Update* (November)
- Winter *Activities Update*, *Issues Then and Now*, and International Women's Day materials (February)

## **COMMUNITY LIAISON**

### **MEETINGS AND CORRESPONDENCE ON ISSUES**

Advisory Council members and staff attend many meetings and consultations representing the Advisory Council each year. Often, what Council learns in these meetings helps set priorities for Council.

Sometimes, in lieu of meeting with officials, the Advisory Council offers analysis in correspondence on issues of concern.

#### **Selected Meetings, 2007–08**

- Council Chairperson meeting with Premier Robert Ghiz and Minister Responsible for the Status of Women Valerie Docherty (January 22)
- Council Chairperson meetings with Hon. Valerie Docherty, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women from June 2007 onwards (July 30, October 3, March 13)
- Council meeting with and recognition of Gail Shea, outgoing Minister Responsible for the Status of Women (June 5)
- Chairperson meeting with the Director of Status of Women Canada (July)
- Executive Director meetings with Charlottetown MP Shawn Murphy (April 20, August 8, February 15)
- Executive Director meeting with Senator Catherine Callbeck (October 19)

- Executive Director meeting with Interministerial Women's Secretariat Community Grant Adjudication Committee (February 21)
- Various Council reps attended meetings regarding Transition House Association governance (with the THA ED April 10 and June 7, with the Review Team April 12, with provincial officials April 20, with the Membership May 4 and at AGM June 27)
- Executive Director meetings regarding new financial reporting procedures and processes for budget requests (July 25; discussion and correspondence ongoing)
- ACSW staff-facilitated roundtable meeting with Audrey Johnson, LEAF National (November 9)
- ACSW staff-facilitated roundtable meeting with violence against women researcher Amanda Dale (November 16)

#### **Selected Correspondence on Issues, 2007–08**

- Meetings with the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women are supported by a memorandum outlining issues and presenting analysis for her consideration. Issues covered in memoranda included delays in appointments to the ACSW; harassment issue(s) in the provincial civil service, the ACSW staff classification study, discussions at the National Coalition of Advisory Councils meetings, release of violent offenders, request to meet with Caucus, budget and financial reporting, international adoption electoral reform, need for

gender-based analysis, the Equality Report Card, Purple Ribbon Campaign, and so on.

- Order of PEI nomination package for a past Council Chairperson (April)
- Draft timeline of events regarding Transition House Association governance, for members (May 4)
- E-mail correspondence with government regarding the development of the Women's Caucus (June)
- Nominations Package to fill current and upcoming vacancies on the Advisory Council on the Status of Women (June 28)
- Letter to Premier Ghiz and provincial officials regarding international adoption issues, in support of the PEI Adoption Coalition (October 2)
- Letter to Premier Ghiz and provincial officials calling for regulated midwifery services, in support of BORN PEI (October 30)
- Statistical Review of Women in the PEI Labourforce, for the Premier's Office (October 31)
- Co-preparation and presentation of briefing document for Min. Carolyn Bertram, Communities, Cultural Affairs and Labour, as part of the Working Group for a Livable Income (November 5)
- Letter of concern to Attorney General Gerard Greenan regarding Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods legislation (January 31)



## **COMMUNITY & GOVERNMENT CONSULTATIONS**

In 2007 and 2008, Council members initiated more formal community consultations, focusing on groups of women that work on behalf of rural women and women under-represented in provincial debate.

In addition, Council members set a priority on meeting more frequently, as a full Council, with elected officials in the province.

### **Community Consultations, 2007–08**

- All of Council and staff met with representative staff of the Mi'kmaq Confederacy, including members of the Aboriginal Women's Association, at the MCPEI offices in Summerside, as organized by Roseanne Sark (June 5)
- Council staff reps met with members of the Bonshaw Women's Institute (January 8) and the Montague Women's Institute (February 15).

### **Government Consultations, 2007–08**

- All of Council and staff met with representatives of the Official Opposition, including Opposition Leader Olive Crane, in Montague (September 24)
- All of Council and staff met with Premier Robert Ghiz and Minister Responsible for the Status of Women Valerie Docherty prior to the Purple Ribbon Campaign launch, at which these leaders also spoke (November 26)

## EVENTS

Advisory Council members and staff participate in community-led events whenever possible. The Advisory Council's role at events is often to bring a gender and diversity perspective to the

event: to share research and perspectives on how the issues being discussed may affect women differently from men or positively or negatively affect diverse groups.

### Selected Events, 2007–08

- Memorial Service for Lorna Hutcheson, Rape Crisis counsellor (April 24)
- Nomination meeting for female politician Margaret Duffy (May 1)
- Working Group for a Livable Income federal issues forums (May)
- Workshop on "Challenges and Changes in Criminal Justice – The PEI Situation"
- Election Leaders' Debate (May 15)
- Women's Network PEI "Have Your Cake and Eat It Too" Fundraiser, Lisa Murphy emcee (May 24)
- Island Studies Symposium on Policy Insights from Sub-National Island Jurisdictions (June 8)
- Golf Against Assault fundraiser for Rape and Sexual Assault Crisis Centre
- Consultation with MP Carolyn Bennett and women's organizations (August 24)
- Canadian Red Cross Consultations on its Auxiliary Role (September 13)

- Rape and Sexual Assault Crisis Centre AGM and Workshop (October 2)
- Sisters in Spirit Vigil (October 4)
- Stand Up, Speak Out against Poverty Rally (October 17)
- Panel presenters at Islandwide Public Transit Symposium (October 26)
- Forum on Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform (October 27)
- Violence in the Workplace Policy workshop (November 6)
- PEI Coalition for Women in Government tea in honour of women MLAs (November 22)
- Bridging Public Investment and Social Value social economy workshop (November 27)
- Goodbye party for Canada World Youth volunteers (December 1)
- Montreal Massacre Memorial Services (December 6)
- PEI Coalition for Women in Government focus group on work/life balance (January 14)
- Women's Network/BORN PEI focus group on birthing options (February 20)
- Child Protection Act Review public consultation (February 25)
- Child Care Facilities Act Review public consultation (February 27)
- Pre-formation Workshop to establish a PEI Food Security Network (March 4)
- Invitational Women's Health and Environments Consultation, Centres for Excellence in Women's Health (Toronto, March 3 to 5)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Women in Sport Fundraiser (March 13)

- Round-tables of officials examining possible ratification of a UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities (March 13 & 26)
- Launch of Pulling Strings: Policy Insights for PEI (March 20)
- Demonstration of support for farmers and workers affected by closure of NOFG hog processing plant (March 28)
- Food Security Network Presentation on Food Secure Canada (March 28)

## **PARTNERSHIPS**

Partnerships involve commitment to participate in the work of coalitions, task forces, research projects, and other community or collectively led activities. Council's policy development process relies on collaboration with organizations that are leading change on issues important to women and families. Participating actively as partners on

projects is an important way that the Advisory Council contributes to other community groups' ability to do their work: the Advisory Council has a responsibility to help press recommendations forward over the longer term for groups that have short-term or project-based funding.

### **List of Partnerships, 2007-08**

- Adult Education Advisory Committee
- Atlantic Seniors' Housing Research Alliance
- Circles of Safety and Support project
- Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform Working Group
- Electoral Reform Advocacy Committee
- Food Security Network (pre-formation meetings)
- Gender- and Diversity-Based Analysis citizens' committee
- Justice Options for Women Who Are Victims of Violence

- LEAF National and LEAF PEI (Women's Legal Education and Action Fund)
- Make Poverty History (PEI)
- Mayor of Charlottetown's Purple Ribbon Task Force on Family Violence Prevention
- PEI Coalition for Women in Government
- PEI Public Transit Coalition
- PEI Working Group for a Livable Income
- Premier's Action Committee on Family Violence Prevention (PAC) & PAC Admin
- Social Economy and Sustainability Research Group: Empowerment and Inclusion Sub-Node
- Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE)
- Together in Courage Committee (for International Women's Day)
- Transformative Parenting Project Advisory Group
- Transition House Association
- Victim Services Advisory Committee
- Women's Network PEI Atlantic Parental Benefits Advisory Committee
- Women's Work(s) Art Project Committee

## **LEADERSHIP IN ANNUAL EVENTS**

### **PERSONS DAY**

October 18 each year recognizes the date that women in Canada were first acknowledged as "persons" under the law in 1929, after the efforts of

pioneering women. Being declared "persons" made women eligible for Senate appointments and other legal rights.

#### **Highlights from Persons Day, 2007**

- Representatives of the ACSW were in Ottawa on Persons Day 2007 and attended a breakfast event sponsored by LEAF. Chairperson Kirstin Lund invited PEI MPs and Senators to join Council representatives at this event. Shawn Murphy, Wayne Easter, and Senator Catherine Callbeck attended. Senator Percy Downe met with Council representatives later in the day.

## **PURPLE RIBBON CAMPAIGN AGAINST VIOLENCE**

December 6 is the National Day of Remembrance and Action to commemorate the murder of 14 female engineering students in Montreal in 1989. Every year, the Advisory Council's Purple Ribbon Campaign involves volunteers Island-wide in the effort to distribute ribbons and information cards with facts and statistics about family

violence. Islanders are encouraged to wear the purple ribbon on or near December 6, and again during Family Violence Prevention Week in February, to remember all women who are victims of violence. The Advisory Council also organizes a noontime December 6 Memorial Service in Charlottetown.

### **Purple Ribbon Campaign Highlights, 2007**

- Theme for the year: The Roots of Violence: Violence IS an Equality Issue.
- Number of ribbons/cards distributed: Approx. 25,000 bilingual bookmarks with ribbons were produced and 20,000 of these were distributed.
- Publications: 10,000 bilingual information sheets on equality in relationships.
- The Campaign was launched with a Press Conference on November 26, 2007. Speakers were Council Chairperson Kirstin Lund, Minister Responsible Valerie Docherty, and Premier Robert Ghiz. The press conference was covered by CBC television, the *Guardian* newspaper, and Island Radio.



- Premier Ghiz and Valerie Docherty made a special effort to promote the Purple Ribbon Campaign among members of the civil service this year.
- Financial contributors to the Purple Ribbon Campaign included the Premier's Action Committee on Family Violence Prevention, the Premier's Office, City of Charlottetown, City of Summerside, Town of Stratford, Town of Montague, Town of Kensington, Community of Tignish, Community of Miscouche, and New Brunswick PSAC.
- The Campaign received 30,000 Canada maple leaf pins through the efforts of Canadian Heritage, Island MPs and Island Senators. Their administrative assistants were particularly helpful in getting the pins to us.
- Fundraising among unions, community service organizations, and larger municipalities raised awareness and helped fund honoraria and volunteer appreciation gifts. Their contributions also allowed Council to hire Carole Betts and Lynn MacNeill to assist with distributing information and ribbons.
- Staff at Quilting Bee and More in Charlottetown volunteered countless hours by cutting thousands of lengths of ribbon in preparation for the Campaign.
- The PEI Federation of Women's Institutes was a huge part of this year's campaign. Chapters across the Island pinned thousands of ribbons.
- Council benefited from the volunteer help of Canada World Youth participants Jinjin Xie from China and Heather Dines from Toronto.
- Other notable volunteers include perennial pinners Judy MacFadyen and Frances Handrahan, who each pin thousands of ribbons at home.

- A commentary on violence against women was published as a guest opinion in the *Guardian* (December 6).
- The Advisory Council coordinated the Charlottetown December 6 Montreal Massacre Memorial Service held at Memorial Hall, Confederation Centre of the Arts. Memorials also took place in O'Leary and Summerside and at UPEI.
- Candle-lighters included Lieutenant-Governor Barbara Hagerman, Premier Robert Ghiz, Hon. Valerie Docherty, Mayor Clifford Lee, RCMP, City Police, and members of equality-seeking groups.
- Memorial services were covered by CBC television, CBC radio, and the *Guardian* newspaper.
- The Charlottetown service was emceed by Council Chairperson Kirstin Lund and Council Member Norma Gallant. Purple Ribbon Coordinator spoke about violence as an equality issue, the theme of the Purple Ribbon Campaign.
- Council received funding from the PEI Literacy Research Network to undertake an evaluation in 2008 of the Purple Ribbon Campaign from a literacy point of view, to assess how campaign materials are being received, read, and understood.

## **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY**

United Nations-declared International Women's Day (IWD) takes place on March 8 each year. Events on International Women's Day and throughout the week surrounding it recognize the ongoing struggle of women for equity, locally and globally. Often, International Women's Day

events and education focus on women's equality in the workplace, since IWD's roots are in the labour movement.

For IWD 2008, Council again joined with other grassroots organizations in the Together in Courage Committee, which coordinated events and communications.

### **Highlights from International Women's Day, 2008**

- ACSW staff participated in planning and coordinating a "Leaders Among Us" event with the other members of the Together in Courage Committee. The event took place on the storm date, March 9, 2008, due to bad weather on March 8. The Georgian Room at the Rodd Charlottetown Hotel was filled to capacity.
- "Leaders Among Us" recognized women champions of the environment. The following women received awards:
  - Bethany Doyle and Joan Doyle
  - The Gaia Singers
  - Betty Howatt

- Sharon Labchuk
  - Irene Novaczek
  - Sara Roach-Lewis
  - Jackie Waddell
- The evening's guest speaker was Susan Howatt, National Water Campaigner with the Council of Canadians.
- The celebration included music from the Gaia singers, a roundtable conversation among the island environmental leaders, door prizes, and a reception.
- Valerie Docherty, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, was one of the special guests who presented awards and introduced award recipients.
- Council promoted IWD events on the ACSW website, blog, and electronic mailing list.

## **BURSARIES FOR WOMEN**

Each year, the Advisory Council awards three bursaries for post-secondary education. Two of these bursaries go to two women to help them continue their studies at the University of Prince

Edward Island and Holland College. The third bursary, named for late Council vice-chairperson Inge Blackett, supports ongoing studies for a woman who is a recent immigrant to Canada.

### **Bursary Recipients**

- University of Prince Edward Island Bursary: Carolyn Taylor
- Holland College Bursary: Susan Woods
- Inge Blackett Bursary: Mahin Saffary

## PUBLICATIONS LIST

The following is a summary list of publications mentioned above. These publications are usually available in hard copy from the Advisory Council or in electronic copy on its Website at <http://www.gov.pe.ca/acsw>

- **Introducing the Equality for PEI Report Card** (May 2007). *A document to initiate an annual "report card" on equality issues, launched in the 2007 Provincial Election Campaign.*
- **Response to the Final Report of the Employment Standards Review Panel** (August 2007). *Advice on improving employment standards to support women's equality.*
- **Orientation to the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women** (September 2007). *A four-page summary of the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women's mandate and activities on behalf of women.*
- **2007 Purple Ribbon Campaign Against Violence: Violence Against Women IS an Equality Issue** (November 2007). *Bookmark with purple ribbon and fact sheet on healthy relationships, in support of the Purple Ribbon campaign against violence against women.*

- **Support for a Province-Wide Ban on Cosmetic Pesticides** (December 2007). *Advice banning cosmetic pesticides due to health risks for women and children.*
- **Submission to Public Hearings on Sunday Shopping** (January 2008). *Advice on enhancing Employment Standards to protect workers every day of the week.*
- **Letter to the Attorney General Regarding Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Legislation** (February 2008). *Concerns about proposed safer communities legislation, based on women's experiences in other jurisdictions.*
- **Expect Equality Every Day: 2008 Calendar** (February 2008). *A guide to federal issues in Canada in 2008 and a postable 2008 calendar, created by the PEIACSW for the Coalition of Advisory Councils on the Status of Women.*
- **Submission to Public Consultations on the Child Care Facilities Act** (February 2008). *Advice on quality, affordable child care that benefits children, parents, and early childhood educators.*
- **About the Advisory Council on the Status of Women** (February 2008). *A one-page orientation to the mission and mandate of the PEI Status of Women.*
- **Issues Then, Issues Now: Some Historical Perspective on Women's Equality on PEI** (February 2008). *An overview of issues past Chairpersons of the Status of Women have focused on, and a snapshot of where those issues stand today.*
- **Moving On** (revised and updated; reprinted 2008). *A booklet-form practical guide for women leaving a relationship - the Advisory Council's most requested resource.*

- **Submission to Child Protection Act Review** (March 2008). *A review of issues we have heard and advice we can provide on PEI's Child Protection Act.*
- **Submission to Island Heritage Study** (March 2008). *Some ideas on how to ensure women's history and the heritage of under-represented groups are included in future Island heritage projects.*



# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## AUDITOR GENERAL

CHARLOTTETOWN  
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

### AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of the  
Prince Edward Island Advisory Council on the Status of Women

I have audited the statement of financial position of the Prince Edward Island Advisory Council on the Status of Women as at March 31, 2008 and the statements of revenue, expenditures and surplus (deficit) and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Council's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. These standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Council as at March 31, 2008 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Colin Youdey, CA  
Auditor General

Charlottetown, P.E.I.  
May 8, 2008

## STATEMENT 1

## PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

MARCH 31, 2008

	2008	2007
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current Assets		
Cash	\$ -	\$1,100
Accounts receivable - General	2,076	699
Prepaid expenses	3,181	832
	<u>\$5,257</u>	<u>\$2,631</u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</b>		
Current Liabilities		
Bank overdraft	\$1,349	\$ -
Accounts payable	4,191	5,626
Deferred revenue	3,608	-
	<u>7,148</u>	<u>5,626</u>
Surplus (Deficit)	(4,622)	(4,995)
	<u>\$3,527</u>	<u>\$2,527</u>

(The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.)

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL:

Chairperson: [Signature]Member: [Signature]

## STATEMENT 2

## PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

## STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND SURPLUS (DEFICIT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2008

	2008	2007
<b>Revenues</b>		
Provincial appropriation - Note 3	\$185,175	\$163,138
Program revenue	4,887	9,872
Miscellaneous revenues	1,829	-
	<u>191,891</u>	<u>173,010</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Administration	15,360	2,478
Salaries	800	800
Conferences	8,182	2,298
Equipment leases - Notes 3(b) and 4	2,623	2,894
Equipment purchases - Note 3(a)	3,847	640
Materials	14,337	12,440
Materials and supplies	3,558	3,706
Program expenses	10,947	9,803
Recruitment costs	-	11,384
Salaries and benefits	132,089	130,409
Travel - in Prince	2,369	3,121
	<u>191,625</u>	<u>179,541</u>
Excess expenditures for the year	(34)	(4,534)
Surplus (Deficit), beginning of year	(4,995)	28
Surplus (Deficit), end of year	<u>\$ -4,529</u>	<u>\$ -4,499</u>

(The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.)

## STATEMENT 3

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN  
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2008

	2008	2007
Cash Flows From Operating Activities:		
Cash received from Province of PEI	\$185,175	\$154,635
Cash received from programs	7,897	2,872
Cash received from miscellaneous revenues	1,829	-
Cash paid for salaries and benefits	(131,747)	(120,409)
Cash paid for materials and services	(84,563)	(47,483)
Net decrease in cash	(2,148)	(387)
Cash, beginning of year	1,189	1,467
Cash (bank overdraft), end of year	\$ 1,041	\$ 1,100

(The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.)

## PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2008

## 1. Purpose of the Organization

The Prince Edward Island Advisory Council on the Status of Women is a government appointed provincial advisory agency. The Advisory Council works for equality and supports women's full and active participation in social, legal, cultural and political spheres of life.

## 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

These statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles for not-for-profit organizations. Accordingly:

(a) Capital assets are expensed when purchased.

(b) Leases are treated as operating leases and lease costs are expensed as they become due.

## 3. Provincial Appropriation

The Provincial Appropriation amount of \$185,175 includes an operating grant of \$182,000 and other provincial grants totaling \$3,175.

## 4. Equipment Lease

A photocopier is leased until September 15, 2011 and the annual lease commitments are \$2,345 plus applicable taxes.

## 5. Pension Costs

Employees of the Council are members of the Prince Edward Island Civil Service Superannuation Plan. The employer's share of the plan benefits plus any additional future actuarial liabilities are assumed by the Province of PEI and are not reflected in the Council's financial statements.

## 6. Fair Value of Financial Assets and Liabilities

The fair value of the entity's cash, accounts receivable and accounts payable approximate their carrying values.







PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND  
Advisory Council on the Status of

**WOMEN**

For additional copies of this report:  
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